Outdated Laws for protection of Wildlife

319. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press news-item captioned "Outdated laws threaten wildlife" as reported in "The Statesman" dated the 30 October, 1995.

(b) if so, whether the wildlife is not being properly protected due to outdated laws;

(c) whether there is spurt in sale of Zoo animals in the country; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to bring amendments in the wildlife laws?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The wildlife (Protection) Act was enacted in 1972 and amended in 1986 and 1991 to make it more stringent and responsive to the current needs.

(c) and (d) There has been no spurt in the sale of zoo animals in the country. Central Zoo Authority under this Ministry controls all transaction related to procurement, sale and transfer of zoo animals belonging to the Schedules of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. However, this Ministry has recently set up an inter-state Committee to review the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and other related laws.

Decontrolling of Oil Sector

320. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for decontrolling the Oil Sector has since been approved by Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) The report of "Strategic Planning Group" formed for restructuring of the National Oil Industry is awaited.

Repair/Maintenance of National Highways in Andhra Pradesh

321. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY:
SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken and allocation made for the repair/maintenance of roads on the National Highways in Andhra Pradesh in preparation for the onset of monsoons;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any work on the roads in Andhra Pradesh has been undertaken since the onset of monsoon; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. RAJASEKARA MURTHY): (a) to (d) A sum of Rs. 18.49 crores has been allocated during 1995-96 for annual repair/maintenance of National Highways in Andhra Pradesh. In addition, a further sum of Rs. 2.5 crores has been allocated to meet the cost of emergent repairs consequent to the recent flood damages. All efforts are being made to maintain the National Highways in traffic worthy condition.

Telecom Facilities in Villages on Hilly Districts in Uttar Pradesh

322. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have connected all Gram Panchayat Villages of hill districts of Uttar Pradesh with telecommunication during the past few years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have not connected these villages with the major cities while they have been connected with the district headquarters; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and by when all these villages would be connected with STD facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

देश में गिरफ्तार किये गये आई०एस०आई० एजेंट

323. **प्रो० विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा:** क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) गत एक वर्ष के दौरान पाकिस्तान गुप्तचर संस्था आई०एस०आई० के कितने एजेंट भारत में गिरफ्तार किये गये हैं;

(ख) वे किस प्रकार की गतिविधियों में लिप्त थे; और

(ग) आई०एस०आई० के एजेंटों की गतिविधियों को रोकने के लिये सरकार क्या कदम उठा रही है?

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (सैयद सिब्ते रजी): (क) और (ख) वर्ष 1994 के दौरान देश के विभिन्न भागों से पाकिस्तान के अनेक आसूचना एजेंट पकड़े गए हैं। तथापि, इस बारे में और अधिक ब्यौरे देना जनहित में नहीं होगा।

(ग) आई०एस०आई० के मंसूबों का मुकाबला करने और इन्हें विफल करने के लिए सरकार आसूचना तंत्र को सुग्राही एवं सुचारू बनाकर, आसूचना का आदान-प्रदान और केन्द्र और राज्य की संबंधित एजेंसियों द्वारा समन्वित कार्रवाई करके, सामरिक महत्व के स्थलों पर अर्द्ध-सैनिक बलों की तैनाती में वृद्धि करके, तटीय एवं स्थलीय गश्त में बढ़ोतरी करके, भारत-पाक सीमा के नाजुक हिस्सों में सीमा पर बाड़ बनाकर और फ्लड-लाईट लगाकर, सभी जरूरी उपाय कर रही है।

Clearance of Airport Areas of Hindon and Delhi from the Bird Menace

324. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hindon Airport and Delhi Airport flying areas have been identified as "high risk bird areas" in the country causing air crash by voltures hitting the aircraft;

(b) if so, what are the facts in this regard; and

(c) what steps Government have so far taken to clear the airport areas of Hindon and Delhi from the birds menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) The information is being collected from the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Air Force Headquarters and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Productivity of Kandla Free Trade Zone Port

325. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated productivity of the Kandla Free Trade Zone Port for the years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(b) the reasons for low productivity;

(c) the number of hours per day this Port was expected to work and the number of actual hours per day it worked during the above period;

(d) the measures taken/proposed to be taken for the utilisation of optimum productivity; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?